

Bismarck Fire Department



2016 Annual Report



Mission

To be an innovative leader in fire services and emergency management.

Vision

To be a proactive organization protecting life and property for the City of Bismarck.

Strategies

Emergency Response

Safeguard the community by providing appropriate personnel and equipment capable of effectively mitigating natural and man-made emergencies, which are common or have significant potential to occur in our community.

Prevention

Work to reduce the occurrence or impact of natural and man-made emergencies that are common or have significant potential to occur in our community by enforcing codes, planning, and educating the public.

Administration

Provide the administrative organization processes and policies necessary to accomplish the mission of the department in order to provide the best value for the City of Bismarck

Workplace

Provide a work setting that helps the employees use their abilities to accomplish the mission of the department while fulfilling their professional ambitions.

Core Values

The standards for behavior that all employees are to model in their personal work behaviors, decision making, contribution, and interpersonal interaction.

Integrity

- Trust, adherence to moral and ethical principles

Nice

- Kind, pleasant, caring

Commitment

- Engaging, involvement, dedication

Honesty

- Uprightness, fairness, reliability

Excellence

- Talent or quality which is unusually good and surpasses ordinary standards

Support our Neighbors

- Lend a helping hand

Stations

The fire department provides emergency services from five fire stations that are located across the city. Each of the stations are staffed with full time personnel.

Our standard is to be on-scene of the emergency within six minutes at least 90% of the time. In 2016, the department met the standard with a 93.1% compliance.



The number of emergency responses from each of the fire stations in 2016 was:

Location	# Emergency Responses
Station 1 (Headquarters) 1020 East Central Ave	1888
Station 2 835 East Bismarck Expressway	1209
Station 3 2340 Tyler Parkway	831
Station 4 (Sleepy Hollow) 2424 East Divide Avenue	885
Station 5 (Lockport) 4217 Lockport Street	910

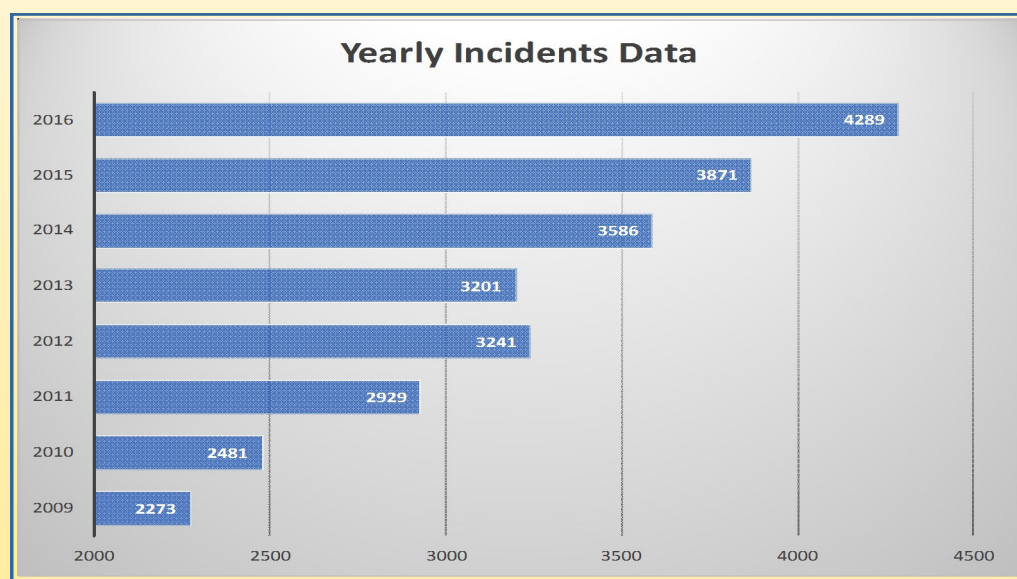
2016 Emergencies

4,289 Emergency Incidents

- ⇒ 113 Fires
- ⇒ 2,840 emergency medical and rescue incidents
- ⇒ 731 false alarms
- ⇒ 77 hazardous material releases
- ⇒ 73 other hazard type responses (arcing wires, power lines down, etc.)
- ⇒ 455 all other responses (smoke scares, ruptures, etc).

Number of emergencies has increased by 10% each of the last 3 years.

Number of emergencies has increased by 70% over the last 10 years.



Fire Suppression

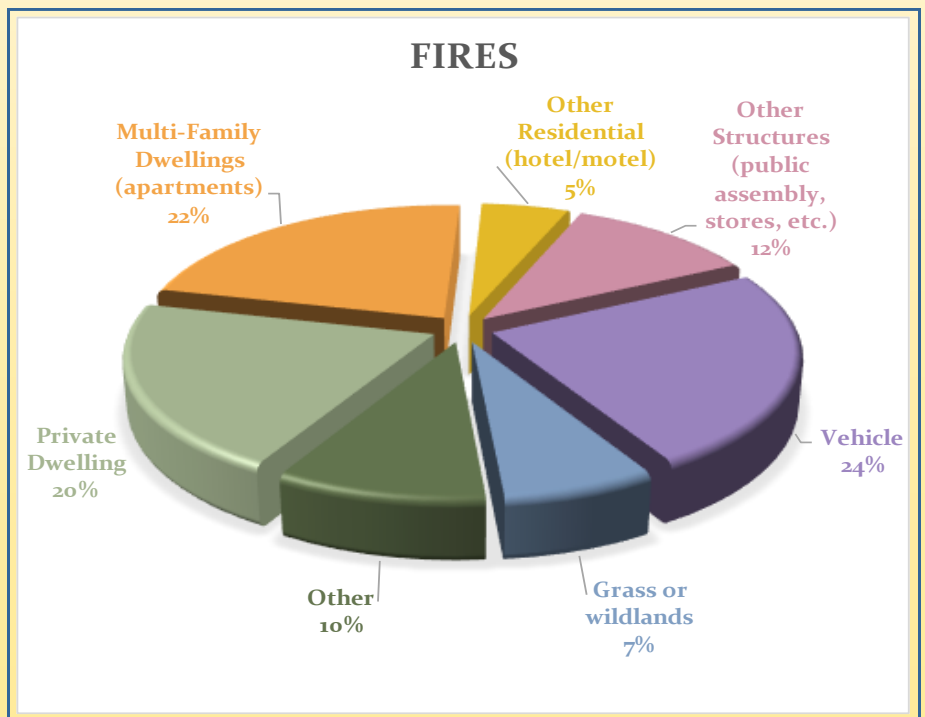
ZERO Fire Fatalities

\$80 million in property threatened by fire

\$2 million in property lost to fire

113 Fires

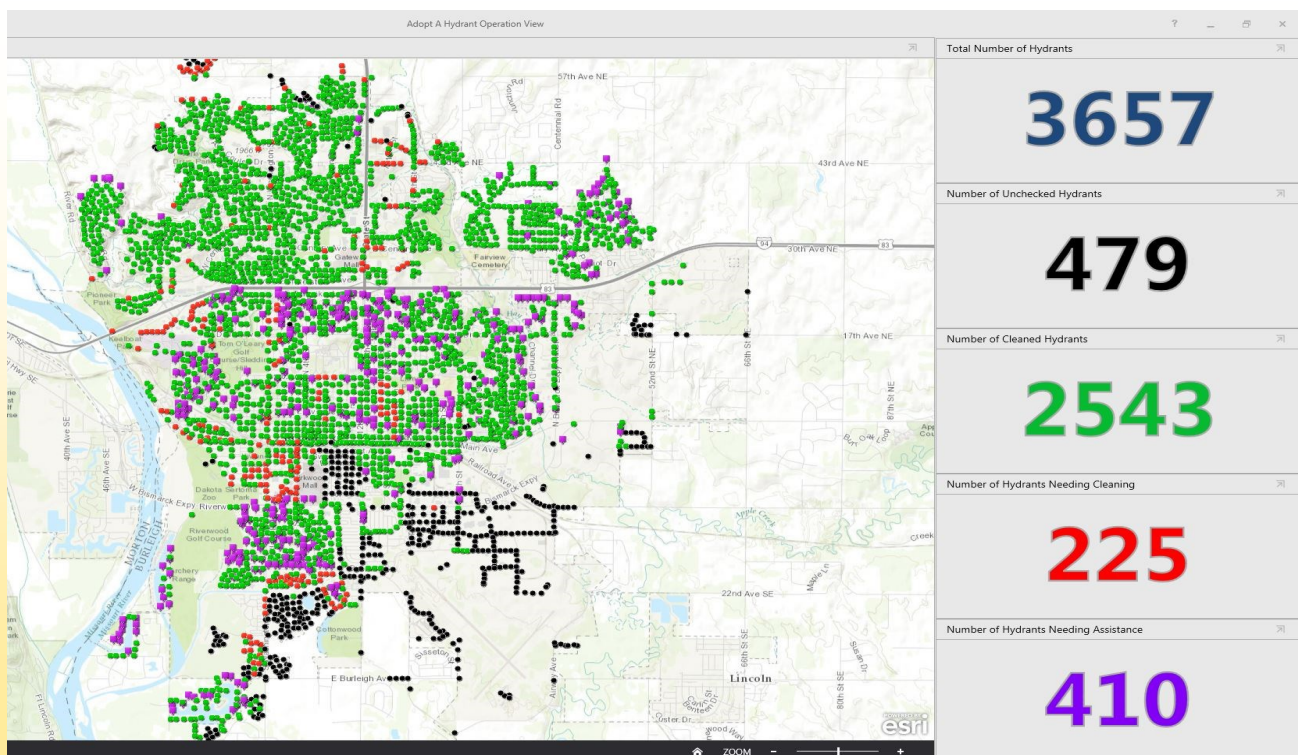
- ⇒ 23 fires in private dwellings
- ⇒ 25 fires in apartment (multi-family dwellings)
- ⇒ 6 fires in other residential (hotels/motels)
- ⇒ 13 fires in other structures (public assembly, stores, etc.)
- ⇒ 27 fires in vehicles
- ⇒ 8 fires involving grass or wildlands
- ⇒ 11 other fires



Winter 2016

Bismarck was hit with two major snow storms in late November and early December which delivered 53" of snow and created closures of schools, businesses and roads. During the storms the Fire Department responded to 161 emergencies. The responses were coordinated with Public Works, Metro Area Ambulance and the Police Department in the adverse travel conditions to ensure that emergency personnel could reach the location.

Fire hydrants were nearly impossible to access due to the heavy snow amounts. An interactive GIS map was launched for the citizens to report hydrants that were cleared and hydrants where assistance was needed to clear the large amount of snow.



Hazardous Materials/Structural Collapse

Hazardous material releases and the potential of a structural collapse can pose a threat to the community. The department has trained personnel and equipment to mitigate chemical releases and respond to structural collapses at the technician response level. The department is a partner with the ND Department of Emergency Services and provides response to structural collapse and hazardous material incidents in southeast North Dakota.



Auto Extrication

The department responded to 265 Motor vehicle accidents, of those 18 required the use of specialized extrication tools to safely remove the occupants from the vehicle. Personnel train in both basic and advanced technique, including the use of big rigs, school busses and exotic metals used in today's new energy efficient vehicles.



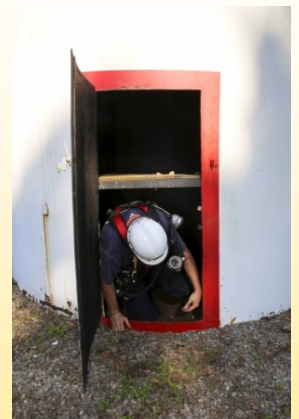
Rope Rescue

Training is conducted for personnel to obtain both core competencies and advanced skills in rope rescue. Target hazards are identified and training specific to those locations is conducted. Examples of such locations are the Event Center, water treatment plant, water towers and communication towers.



Confined Space

Confined space rescues are inherently dangerous. The Bismarck Fire Department trains on the potential hazards that exist in confined spaces. Examples of confined spaces include tanks, manholes, boilers, sewers, silos, pipes, ducts, bins, and pits.



Trench Rescue



Training is conducted at an operations and technician level within the department. In trench collapse emergencies, the department is trained to identify and deploy the needed resources, site management, collapse patterns and skills to perform a trench rescue.



Water/Ice Rescue



The Bismarck Fire Department personnel utilize a “Fortuna” boat and flotation suits to conduct water/ice rescues. The department works with the Burleigh County Sheriff’s Department and the Bismarck Rural Fire Department on water/ice rescues.



HEARTSAFE

A group of people, including firefighters and bystanders, gathered outdoors in front of a red fire truck. A man lies on the grass holding a sign that reads: "My chance of survival increased to 60% thanks to bystander CPR and AED use." Other signs and a podium with "ILLINOIS SAFE" and "NCS" logos are also visible.

Risk Reduction Activities

OPERATION BUTT OUT

An unusually high amount of fires started by improperly discarded smoking materials occurred in the Spring. Operation Butt Out was implemented as a public awareness of how to properly dispose of smoking materials and the fire risks associated with smoking. The program was amazingly successful as the number of these types of fires were drastically reduced.

FIRE INSPECTIONS

The fire code enforcement program involves on-site fire inspections of over 4,000 occupancies. Fire code violations adversely impact levels of life safety, risk of fire, and economic impact. In the year, a total of 1,119 code violations were identified. The average number of fires in the Midwest region of the United States for similar sized communities is 285, compared to 113 in Bismarck. The fire inspection and prevention programs assist in lowering the incidents of fire.

Emergency Management

The Emergency Management program is a proactive effort to best prepare city departments and staff to work efficiently during large-scale emergencies. Training and exercises are conducted for an array of emergencies, including the emergency operations center. Coordination amongst city departments, medical facilities and other private businesses are continually pursued through Emergency Management.



Message from the Chief

Thank you for reviewing the Bismarck Fire Department's 2016 Annual Report. Our department is committed to providing high quality levels of service in fire and rescue emergency response, fire prevention and emergency preparedness in a professional and responsible manner. The pillar of our department's success is the staff which is comprised of outstanding professionals that are committed, trained and ready to make a positive difference in the conduct of their duties. The fire department is full of tradition and history as it was established 140 years ago. We are respectful of the challenges and risk that firefighters faced from that time to present date. As we honor the past and treasure tradition, we also look to be innovative by adhering to our mission, "To be a proactive organization protecting life and property for the City of Bismarck".

Respectfully,

Joel Boespflug,

Joel Boespflug

Fire Chief

